

General Amasa Allen House
Main Street (next house south
of general store)
Walpole
Cheshire County
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-53

HABS
NH.
3-WALP
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

GENERAL AMASA ALLEN HOUSE

HABS
N.H.
3-WALP
2-

Location: Main Street (next house south of general store),
Walpole, Cheshire County, New Hampshire

Present Owner
and Occupant: Dr. William H. Tatem, Walpole, New Hampshire

Present Use: Domestic and doctor's office

Brief Statement
of Significance: Typical example of a late Georgian, frame house of
the middle Connecticut River Valley.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Original owner, General Amasa Allen; subsequent owner, one Peck.
2. Date of erection: 1792
3. Notes on alterations and additions: Ell, later, at rear.
4. Important old views: Old photograph in Walpole Historical Society.
5. Sources of information: Interviews with Herbert Tucker, Walpole, New Hampshire, and the owner, Dr. William H. Tatem. Federal Writers' Project, New Hampshire; A Guide to the Granite State (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1938), page 360.

B. Likely sources not yet investigated: History of Walpole now being written by Mrs. Frizzell.

Prepared by Dr. Frank J. Roos, Jr.
University of Illinois, for
National Park Service
July 1959

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Good example of late Georgian two-story frame house in the middle Connecticut Valley.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Foundations: Granite on field stone.

NH
3. WALP

3. Wall construction: Timber frame, pegged and mortised; clapboard siding.
4. Chimneys: Two brick chimneys.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Six-panel entrance door with five-light transom. Front door and other doors original. Georgian enframing. Dentil range on cornice and cornice of door. Flanking pilasters, main door, cushion frieze.
 - b. Windows and shutters: 6/6-light double-hung windows. Shutters later.
6. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Hip roof with monitor between chimneys. Slate. Ridge pole with pegged rafters.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed eaves with crown mould, dentil course and bed mould.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plan: Central-hall type plan. Two stories.
2. Stairways: Stair at right side of central hall. Original with scroll ornamented stringer. Paneling on stairway matching the rail.
3. Flooring: Pine, random width. Second-floor northeast room has diagonal checker-board painted pattern on floor.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Ceil--original plaster on split lath. All walls around fireplaces are paneled. Wallpaper is replica of early Walpole design, commercially manufactured.
5. Doorways and doors: Original paneled doors framed with moldings.
6. Trim: Chair rail-paneling in two front rooms and hall. Paneled interior shutters of horizontally sliding type.
7. Hardware: Much of it original.
8. Lighting: Electric.
9. Heating: Central plus fireplaces with mantels that have shelves and molding trim. Eight fireplace openings; all have different paneling.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: House faces east on an open setting.

2. Outbuildings: Later barn.
3. Walks: Macadam.
4. Landscaping: Shade trees and shrubs.

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